

There are many reasons for the increasing rate of infant mortality, such as teenage marriages, frequent child births, infrequent ante-natal checks and anaemia. Besides 70 per cent of the child birth takes place in a very unhygienic conditions, particularly in rural areas. Asphyxia in babies has been a major killer leading to life-long morbidity.

While the infant mortality rate has registered a fall in the past three decades in most of the developing countries including India, it is unfortunate that Orissa has lagged behind other States. Unless immediate steps are taken by the Paediatricians to check the infant mortality rate, the objective of the "Child Survival and Safe Motherhood Programme" cannot be achieved. They should be engaged in the rural areas to work relentlessly for the eradication and control of childhood diseases.

As such, I urge upon the Central Government to pay special attention for checking the infant mortality rate particularly in Orissa.

- (iv) **Need to set up a power sub-station at Padrauna in Deoria district, U.P.**

[Translation]

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Padrauna): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Central government towards Uttaranchal of Deoria District of Uttar Pradesh. Narayani river flows into Uttar Pradesh via Nepal and Bihar. This area is affected badly by floods every year. There is acute scarcity of roads. The area has faced terror of the Jungle party for long. Every now and then there are incidents of dacoity, murder and kidnapping. The villages of Uttar Pradesh located on Nepal and Bihar border are facing acute shortage of electricity. The villagers are undergoing great hardship due to power shortage. The absence of electricity and roads, the jungle Party has got an easy access to the villages and as a result of it, incidents of kidnappings and dacoities have

become a common thing. It is impossible to provide electricity to the inhabitants of the villages without assistance from the Centre. There is not a single power sub-station in the north of Kushi city for a distance of upto hundred kms.

Prior to this, our hon. Energy Minister got an electricity sub-station set up at Salempur, Sikanderpur, Rajapaked. Keeping in view the conditions prevailing in Padrauna, I urge upon the Central Government to set up a big power sub-station at Padrauna also. All the same, arrangements to provide grants may be made to provide electricity connections to the villages situated on Bihar and Nepal border.

- (v) **Need to drop the proposal for establishing a Medical and Health Education Commission.**

[English]

DR. GUNVANT RAMBHAU SARODE (Jalgaon): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to raise the following matter under Rule 377:

There is a growing concern in the field of medical education in the country while there is growing unemployment and under-employment among doctors. The Government of India has been repeatedly assuring that no more medical colleges would be opened in the country. But in many states especially in Maharashtra and Karnataka, a number of medical colleges charging high capitation fees have been opened with the approval of the State Government. The I.M.C. (Amendment) Bill, 1988 is awaiting consideration of the Parliament for giving more powers to Indian Medical Council. It is learnt that the Government of India is planning to establish a medical and health education commission to deal with functioning of medical institutions which would seriously erode the power and function of Indian Medical Council. The Indian Medical Association has strongly opposed the above move.

The matter may be looked into.